Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:

selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if

- (i) the path from neighbor *p* to destination *j* does not include node *i* and does not repeat any node, and
- (ii) $D_{yp}^i < D_{yx}^i$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination f to neighbor p,

where $D_{y_i}^i$ is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and $D_{y_i}^i$ is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x.

2. (original): A method as recited in claim 1,

wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and

wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.

3. (original): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising: sending updates to a routing table if

a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or

a node loses the last path to a destination, or

a node suffers a distance increase to a destination.

4. (original): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the destination; and

sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table.

- 5. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:
- (a) selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if
 - (i) the path from neighbor *p* to destination *j* does not include node *i* and does not repeat any node, and
 - (ii) $D_{yp}^{i} < D_{yx}^{i}$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination j to neighbor p,

where D_{yp}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and D_{yx}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x;

(b) wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and

- (c) wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.
 - 6. (original): A method as recited in claim 5, further comprising sending updates to a routing table if

a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or

- a node loses the last path to a destination, or
- a node suffers a distance increase to a destination.
- 7. (original): A method as recited in claim 5, further comprising:

sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the destination; and

sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table.

- 8. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:
- (a) selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if
 - (i) the path from neighbor p to destination j does not include node i and does not repeat any node, and
 - (ii) $D_{yp}^{i} < D_{yx}^{i}$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination i to neighbor p,

where D^i_{yp} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and D^i_{yx} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x; and

- (b) sending updates to a routing table if
 - a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or
 - (ii) a node loses the last path to a destination, or
 - (iii) a node suffers a distance increase to a destination.
- 9. (original): A method as recited in claim 8,

wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and

wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.

10. (original): A method as recited in claim 8, further comprising: sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the destination; and

sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table.

- 11. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:
- (a) selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if

- (i) the path from neighbor p to destination j does not include node i and does not repeat any node, and
- (ii) $D_{yp}^{t} < D_{yx}^{t}$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination j to neighbor p,

where D_{yp}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and D_{yz}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x;

- (b) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the destination; and
- (c) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table.
 - 12. (original): A method as recited in claim 11,

wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and

wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.

13. (original): A method as recited in claim 11, further comprising sending updates to a routing table if

a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or

a node loses the last path to a destination, or a node suffers a distance increase to a destination.

- 14. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:
- (a) selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if
 - the path from neighbor p to destination j does not include node iand does not repeat any node, and
 - (ii) $D_{yp}^{i} < D_{yx}^{i}$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination j to neighbor p,

where D_{yp}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and D_{yx}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x; and

- (b) sending updates to a routing table if
 - (i) a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or
 - (ii) a node loses the last path to a destination, or
 - (iii) a node suffers a distance increase to a destination;
- (c) wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and
- (d) wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.
 - 15. (original): A method as recited in claim 14, further comprising:
 sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that
 sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the
 destination; and

sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table.

- 16. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:
- (a) selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if
 - (i) the path from neighbor p to destination j does not include node i and does not repeat any node, and
 - (ii) $D_{yp}^i < D_{yx}^i$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination j to neighbor p,

where D_{yp}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and D_{yx}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x;

- (b) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the destination; and
- (c) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table;
- (d) wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and
- (e) wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.

17. (original): A method as recited in claim 16, further comprising sending updates to a routing table if

a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or

- a node loses the last path to a destination, or
- a node suffers a distance increase to a destination.
- 18. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:
- (a) selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if
 - the path from neighbor p to destination j does not include node iand does not repeat any node, and
 - (ii) $D_{yp}^{l} < D_{yx}^{i}$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination j to neighbor p,

where D_{yp}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and D_{yp}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x;

- (b) sending updates to a routing table if
 - a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or
 - (ii) a node loses the last path to a destination, or
 - (iii) a node suffers a distance increase to a destination;
- (c) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the destination; and

- (d) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table.
 - 19. (original): A method as recited in claim 18,

wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and

wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.

- 20. (currently amended): A method for routing data packets in a wireless network at a node *i*, comprising:
- (a) selecting a neighbor p as [[the]] \underline{a} next hop in a route from node i to destination j if
 - (i) the path from neighbor p to destination j does not include node i and does not repeat any node, and
 - (ii) $D_{yp}^{i} < D_{yx}^{i}$ for any other neighbor x and for all nodes y that are in the path from destination j to neighbor p,

where D_{yp}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor p and D_{yx}^{i} is the distance value of the route from node i to node y through neighbor x;

- (b) sending updates to a routing table if
 - (i) a node discovers a new destination with a finite and valid path to the destination, or
 - (ii) a node loses the last path to a destination, or
 - (iii) a node suffers a distance increase to a destination.

- (c) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet, if the neighbor is upstream from it towards the destination; and
- (d) sending a unicast routing table update from a node to a neighbor that sends it a data packet when the path implied by the neighbor's distance table entry is different from the path implied by the node's routing table;
- (e) wherein a first node considers a second as its neighbor if it hears update messages from said second node; and
- (f) wherein said first node no longer considers said second node as its neighbor if said first node cannot send data packets to said second node.